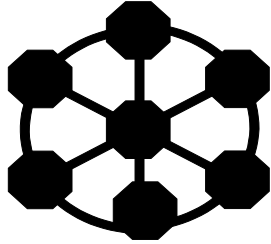




What is the Self Advocacy Council VI and how did it get started?



So, when we got together at the Area Meeting on May 1, 1992, we decided we need a strong voice to be heard ALL the time, and to lead our self advocacy movement.

We decided to start the **Self Advocacy Council VI**. The Council has two members from each People First group in the region. We also have a representative to Valley Mountain Regional Center and to the Area VI Board on the Council. Our People First of California representative is on the Council too.



First we got help from the Area VI Board. The Area VI Board got money for us from the State Council one year, and from the local Program Development Fund the next year. The Area Board also gives us technical assistance. In 1993, the Council became the Consumer Advisory Committee to Valley Mountain Regional Center and to the Area VI Board. Then the Council got a contract to provide Consumer Advocate services for Valley Mountain Regional Center.



Now, the Council is a private, non-profit organization - run by self advocates - for all of us in our area. **The Self Advocacy Council VI speaks up for us!**